

**From:** jd107778@sr-ungw03-01.Central.Sun.COM@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/15/02 5:01pm  
**Subject:** Proposed Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

The proposed settlement proposed by the US Department of Justice and nine states is, in my opinion, inadequate because it doesn't address the problems that made Microsoft a monopoly in the first place and the enforcement procedures proposed are insipid.

Microsoft is currently a monopoly because they've engaged in a repeated practice of bundling "feature" software with their Windows operating system. Since the Windows OS is a monopolistic operating system, bundling these features is, in effect, predatory pricing because it drives the other vendors of the feature software out of business because they can't compete with the features offered by Microsoft for "free". Any remedy intended to fix the antitrust practices of Microsoft has to address this issue.

Furthermore, having any agreed-upon remedies enforced by a "Technical Committee" comprised of members that Microsoft partially chooses is tantamount to having "the fox guard the hen house."

I believe that if the current settlement is agreed upon it may lead to certain short-term benefits for consumers, vendors involved with Microsoft and certain macroeconomic forces in the world, but I strongly believe that the far more important long-term benefits of software innovation and real consumer competition in the computer software, computer security and computer hardware industries will suffer consequences far greater than any short-term benefits if the remedies aren't reworked to be effective.

Thank you,  
Respectfully,  
Jim Dixon

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